

SYN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

June 1, 2004

The ACLU has sent a letter to the Board of Supervisors demanding that a small cross displayed on the official county seal be removed and that a response from our Board be received within 14 days. The ACLU has threatened legal action against the County if the seal is not removed.

The official County seal was designed by former Supervisor Kenneth Hahn and adopted by the Board of Supervisors on March 1, 1957. It has been a symbol of our great county which spans 4,081 square miles and encompasses 10 million residents, making it the largest and most diverse county in the nation.

The seal has various symbols representing our County's diverse and rich history. From agriculture to oil production, from cultural activities to the conquest of space. And it includes a cross representing the influence of the California Missions which was part of the development of our County and the State of California.

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

BURKE \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

Our history cannot be changed and it will not be rewritten. We have a rich and proud history which every person in the County of Los Angeles can be proud, no matter what your religious background.

Today the County of Los Angeles is faces a variety of critical issues and the threat of such a lawsuit by the ACLU is clearly a frivolous action and would cause the County of Los Angeles to spend an untold amount of already scarce resources.

I therefore move that the Board of Supervisors reiterate its support for our County seal which was adopted 47 years ago; and

I further move that the Board of Supervisors direct County Counsel to thoroughly review this matter and begin preparations to protect and defend the County seal if such frivolous litigation is brought against the County.